



# Local Maintenance and Improvement Grants Program: Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the LMIG Program?

The Local Maintenance and Improvement Grants (LMIG) Program provides funds to local governments to perform improvements to their roadway network each year. The funding source for LMIG is a percentage of the state motor vehicle fuel tax. Use of LMIG funds requires adherence to adequate roadway standards, accounting practices, and applicable transportation plans.

The GDOT Director of Planning establishes the formula for the distribution of LMIG funds. This formula is based on U.S. Census Bureau population counts and the total centerline mileage of locally-owned, paved and unpaved roads.

## How do local governments submit centerline mileage data?

In mid-February of each year, the GDOT Commissioner mails a letter to the highest elected official of each local government. This official letter informs each local government of its total centerline mileage on record at GDOT, and requests the government access [www.GDOTReport.org](http://www.GDOTReport.org) to confirm their roadway centerline mileage. The website is open for centerline mileage validation from mid-February through mid-April.

**For More Information  
Visit**

[www.dot.ga.gov/PS/Local](http://www.dot.ga.gov/PS/Local)

## What is qualifying mileage for LMIG?

GDOT uses the Federal Highway Administration's definition of a "public road" (23 C.F.R. § 460.2) as the basis for what is accepted for qualifying centerline mileage under LMIG.

Centerline miles qualify if	Centerline miles are disqualified if
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Owned by that local government</li><li>➤ Passable by a standard four-wheel passenger vehicle</li><li>➤ Open to the public – there can be no gate or signage restricting access to the road</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Owned by the state</li><li>➤ Owned by the federal government (i.e. U.S. Forest Service)</li><li>➤ On the property of a public or private school</li><li>➤ Access is restricted by gates or signage</li><li>➤ Privately owned</li><li>➤ Part of a gated community or apartment complex</li><li>➤ It has not been legally transferred to the local government</li><li>➤ Is an alley</li></ul>

## What if a road runs along a boundary line?

- If a road is owned jointly by the two local governments on either side of the boundary line both local governments will each report half of the total mileage of that part of the road.
- If a road is owned by only one of the local governments on either side of the boundary line that local government will report all of the total mileage of that part of the road.



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## How is local centerline mileage information used?

- GDOT compares the centerline mileage reported by local governments to the centerline mileage on record at GDOT, and initiates reconciliation efforts to have accurate centerline data when necessary.
- GDOT uses the public road mileage information and other road characteristics to publish transportation maps of Georgia's counties and cities.
- Annually, GDOT reports public road mileage information and other road data to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).
- The FHWA uses the public road mileage to report to Congress and to establish the federal funding apportionment the state receives annually. These federal funds account for approximately one-third of GDOT's annual budget.

## How should changes to the local road network be reported?

O.C.G.A § 32-4-41 and § 32-4-91 require local governments to inform GDOT of changes to the local road network within 90 days of modifications to the public road network. To report changes, local governments must provide the GDOT Office of Transportation Data with the following:

- A completed [GDOT Notification Local Road Activity Report form](#).
- A map or plat depicting the location and alignment of said local road(s).
- The local government meeting minutes wherein said local public road change(s) was adopted.

Term	Definition
Centerline Mileage	Centerline miles represent the total length of a given road from its starting point to its end point. The number and size of the lanes on that road are ignored when calculating centerline mileage.
Local Road	A local road is a road owned by a county or city government.
Public Road	Federal regulation 23 C.F.R. § 460.2 defines a public road as any road open to public travel, which "means that the road section is available, except during scheduled periods, extreme weather or emergency conditions, passable by four-wheel standard passenger cars, and open to the general public for use without restrictive gates, prohibitive signs, or regulation other than restrictions based on size, weight, or class of registration. Toll plazas of public toll roads are not considered restrictive gates."